



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/690,037      | 10/21/2003  | Steven P. Kim        | 4541-007            | 3999             |

24112 7590 07/27/2006

COATS & BENNETT, PLLC  
P O BOX 5  
RALEIGH, NC 27602

EXAMINER

BLACKWELL, JAMES H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2176

DATE MAILED: 07/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/690,037

Applicant(s)

KIM, STEVEN P.

Examiner

James H. Blackwell

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to an original application filed 05/02/2006 with a priority date of **10/21/2003**.
2. Claims 1-18 are currently pending. Claims 1, 9, and 14 are independent claims.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Roberts (U.S. Patent No. 6,868,528 filed 06/15/2001, issued 03/15/2005).

**In regard to independent Claim 1 (and similarly independent Claims 9, and 14), Roberts discloses *displaying a portion of said table in a viewable area of said window* (Figs. 2-4 show a table with rows and columns in the viewable area of a window. In Fig. 2, columns 208f-h contain an indicator that when selected displays additional information that is off the screen or otherwise hidden from view).**

**Roberts also discloses that *for at least one row of said table in said displayed portion, displaying information from one or more columns outside said viewable area in a hovering row adjacent to the displayed row, in the same viewable area of said window*. Fig. 2 of Roberts depicts a display table consisting of rows and columns of customer information. Columns labeled 208f-h have cells with triangular buttons that**

when depressed by the user with, for example a mouse, display additional columns and rows of information, that were hidden from view and off the current display screen.

This additional information is displayed such that it overlays or "hovers" over and slightly below the original display table (Figs. 3 and 4 show so called second and third level data). This hovering "sub table" contains both hovering rows and columns which are "adjacent" to the originally displayed rows and columns.

**In regard to dependent Claim 2, Roberts discloses that *said hovering row is displayed below said displayed row* (Figs. 3-4 depict this).**

**In regard to dependent Claim 3, Roberts discloses *displaying column headers above said hovering row* (Figs. 3-4 depict column headers of both the original and hovering table above (at the top) the hovering table columns).**

**In regard to dependent Claim 4 (and similarly dependent Claims 10, and 15), Roberts discloses that *said hovering row is dynamically displayed or not displayed, in response to a user input* (Figs. 2-4 depict triangular buttons that when clicked by the user toggle the hovering table; Col. 4, lines 18-27 discuss various input devices that can be used; Col. 6, lines 35-48 discusses a subordinate data indicator in the form of an actuatable icon that when actuated displays a subordinate level of data).**

**In regard to dependent Claim 5 (and similarly dependent Claims 12, and 17), Roberts discloses that *said user input comprises moving a mouse pointer over an icon associated with said displayed row* (Fig. 1 depicts a typical computer system with a mouse that a user would likely use to actuate the subordinate data indicator as depicted in Figs. 2-4; Col. 4, lines 18-27 discuss a mouse as an input device).**

**In regard to dependent Claims 6-7 (and similarly dependent Claims 11, and 16), Roberts discloses that *the static display of said hovering row is toggled (de-selected) in response to a user input* (Fig. 6, step 616 suggest the hovering table display can be toggled).**

**In regard to dependent Claim 8 (and similarly dependent Claims 13, and 18), Roberts discloses that *said hovering row is displayed only if all columns outside said viewable area can be displayed in said hovering row* (Figs. 3-4 suggest this limitation since, in the case of Fig. 4, additional information is made available in a second hovering table indicating that for the first hovering table that all data outside the viewable area can be displayed as further indicated by subsequent hovering tables invoked in a manner similar to that which invoked the first hovering table).**

***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments, see amendment, filed 05/02/2006, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-18 under Hoag in view of Gibb have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Roberts. Roberts discloses a tabular display, which contains rows and columns. Some of the content of the columns/rows (cells) contain additional information, which would have typically been displayed as additional content in the existing table. Roberts's invention however allows the user to view the additional content from the existing table by producing the additional content in another table which overlays or "hovers" over the existing table. The Examiner believes that when Roberts is combined with the existing prior art it teaches the amended limitations

Art Unit: 2176

**Conclusion**

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James H. Blackwell whose telephone number is 571-272-4089. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

7. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather R. Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

James H. Blackwell  
07/20/2006

*William L. Bashore*  
**WILLIAM BASHORE**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**